

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

#### Waddill Wildlife Refuge (LAC 76:III.325)

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby announces its intent to adopt a rule establishing visitor regulations for Waddill Wildlife Refuge.

The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statement, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

#### Title 76

#### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### Part III. State Game and Fish Preserves and Sanctuaries

#### Chapter 3. Particular Game and Fish Preserves and Commissions

#### §325. Waddill Wildlife Refuge

A. Purpose. Waddill Wildlife Refuge will be actively managed as a wildlife educational and learning area for youth groups, nonconsumptive users, and as a hunter safety and aquatic education training center. The following rules and regulations concerning the management, protection and utilization of this refuge have been adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the refuge.

#### B. General

1. Access to the refuge will only be allowed through the front entrance bordering Flannery Road. All visitors will sign the register at the front office. A group of individuals may have a representative sign for the group by indicating the number in the group. Individuals less than 16 years of age must be accompanied and supervised by a person 18 years of age or older.

2. Vehicles are allowed only in designated areas and must park in provided spaces. ATV's, trail bikes, horses and mules are strictly prohibited. Restricted areas will be established for specific activities and visitors will not enter these areas unless they are part of the specific activity allowing access to that area.

3. All dogs are prohibited unless participating in a department-sponsored activity, such as a retriever demonstration during an educational activity. All dogs running at large are prohibited; and the owner or handler of said dogs will be held liable for any personal injury or property damage, and will be subject to criminal citation.

4. Citizens are cautioned that by entering the refuge they or their vehicles may be subject to license checks, inspections and searches. Wildlife officers will have the duty and right to restrict access to the refuge as necessary.

5. Refuge hours will be set by the Fur and Refuge Division (hereinafter "division") and will be posted at the entrance. All visitors will abide by the posted hours. Educational activities may be held outside the normal open hours of the refuge by prior arrangement and permission of the division. All participants of these activities will confine their use of the refuge to the designated area of the activity.

6. Hunting, pursuing, killing, molesting, or intentionally disturbing any type of wildlife is prohibited; provided that the department may conduct activities necessary to properly manage wildlife on the area.

7. Camping is prohibited; provided that the division is authorized to establish and maintain specific camping areas for use by organized groups under policy established by the division. If areas are established, they will not be used by the public.

8. Littering is prohibited. Visitors must remove their litter or place litter in appropriate litter disposal containers.

9. Damage to or removal of trees, shrubs, flowers, or wild plants is strictly prohibited.

10. The possession of firearms, bows, liquor and controlled dangerous substances by the public on the refuge is prohibited; provided that the division is authorized to construct, maintain and operate ranges, in which case, shotguns and bows will be permitted under guidelines developed by the division.

11. Access to all nature trails is limited to pedestrians only. No vehicles, ATV's, trail bikes, horses or mules are allowed. Individuals utilizing the nature trails must remain on the designated trail. No picnicking is allowed on the trails. All trash must be disposed of in designated litter containers.

12. Individual groups may submit written requests to reserve a specific part of the refuge for a

special group event. The remaining unreserved portion of the refuge shall be open to the public.

13. Violation of any part of this section constitutes a class two violation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 et seq. and 56:109.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 22:

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to James Manning, Assistant Administrator, Fur and Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 3, 1996.

Glynn Carver  
Chairman

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES  
RULE TITLE: Waddill Wildlife Refuge Visitor Regulations**

- I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)  
No additional costs or savings to state or local governmental units are anticipated.
- II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)  
There are no anticipated increases or decreases in revenue collections.
- III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)  
There are no estimated costs to visitors to the refuge. Visitors will receive an undetermined economic benefit due to increased use of the refuge.
- IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)  
There will be little or no effect on competition and employment.

Fredrick J. Prejean  
Undersecretary  
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H. Gordon Monk  
Chief Coordinator of the  
Legislative Fiscal Office